

REMARKS

Before this amendment, claims 1-29 are pending in the present application. In the above amendments, claims 21-23, 25, and 27-29 have been amended, claims 1-20 and 26 have been cancelled, and new claims 30-54 have been added. Therefore, after entry of the above amendments, claims 21-25, 27-29 and 30-54 will be pending in this application. Applicants respectfully submit that the present application is now in condition for allowance, which prompt and favorable action is requested.

In the Office Action dated September 16, 2004, the Examiner objected to the drawings for various inconsistencies with the specification. Applicants have discovered that an inaccurate version of the formal drawings had been accidentally submitted on January 16, 2002. The revised formal drawings submitted herewith overcome the Examiner's rejections and include amendments to FIG. 3 that address the Examiners request to clarify/correct the redundancy of steps 305 and 330.

The Examiner objected to the specification because the "Session Management Protocol (SMP)" and "the failed protocol configuration indication" at page 3, lines 9-10 appear to lack antecedent basis. Applicants have amend the specification by changing "the" to --a-- before "Session Management Protocol (SMP)". Applicants respectfully submit, however, that antecedent basis exists for "the failed protocol configuration indication" since "a failed protocol configuration indication" appears at page 3, line 8.

The Examiner rejected claims 1-29 under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. Specifically, the Examiner submitted that the use of "protocol" was not clear since the same word was used to refer to two different things. Applicants amended

the specification to recite "protocol process" when referring to a function. Applicants respectfully submit that the specification meets the requirements of 35 U.S.C. 112 and that the claims as presented particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. No new matter has been added.

CONCLUSION

In light of the amendments contained herein, Applicants submit that the application is in condition for allowance, for which early action is requested.

Please charge any fees or overpayments that may be due with this response to Deposit Account No. 17-0026.

Respectfully submitted,

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IN THE DRAWINGS

Applicants are submitting a revised set of formal drawings herewith that include changes to FIG. 3. As submitted, FIG. 3 includes only one box labeled 305 and only one box labeled 330.

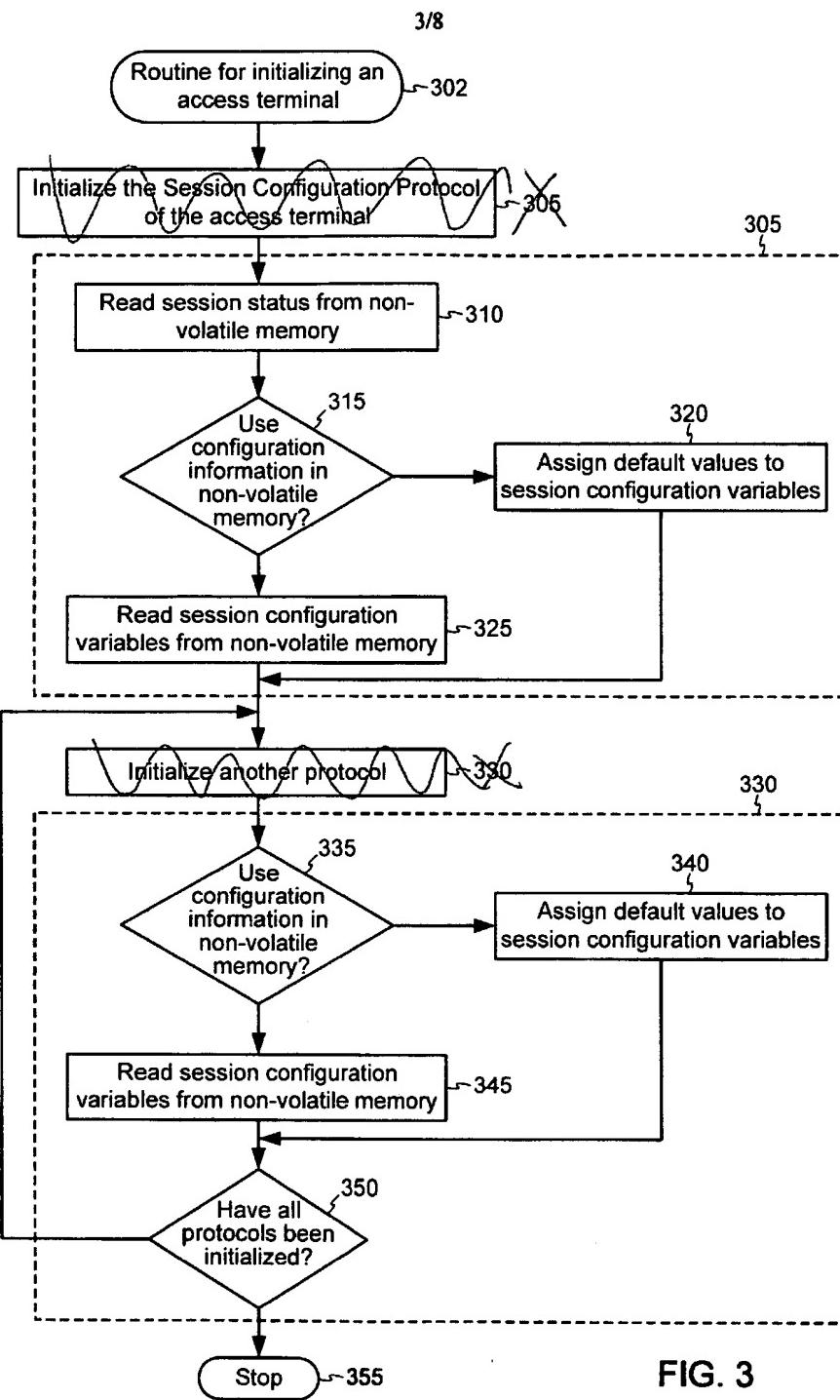


FIG. 3